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Joint Security Group Proposed by Humphrey

Associated Press

Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.) proposed yesterday establishment of a Senate-House Committee on National Strategy and Security to streamline liaison between top Government officials and leaders in Congress.

He advanced the proposal in a filmed TV interview with Sen. Kenneth B. Keating (R-N.Y.) for use by New York stations. Keating called it "a challenging suggestion."

Humphrey said the Committee should be set up so that Cabinet and other Administration officers could lay out before one blue ribbon joint committee a total national security policy—embracing military, economic, propaganda and trade fields.

It would serve substantially the same purpose in the legislative field that the National Security Council serves for President Eisenhower.

"This committee should be so designed that when the officers of the executive branch come down to speak, they don't have to go from one committee to another, but they can come and consult with the top leadership of both political parties in both Houses at one time," Humphrey said.

He coupled his proposal with the suggestion that the National Security Council be provided with an advisory national policy planning staff to devise long-range planning suggestions for the Council.

"Actually," he said, "the

come to a decision, for example, on what should we do in Lebanon, what should we do about Formosa, what should we do about Berlin.

"It actually doesn't have the quiet and the opportunity for meditation and long-range planning that would really be required for a little 'get-ahead,' a little initiative on our part against the Soviets."

Humphrey said he hadn't worked out details of either proposal.

The congressional group would be made up of the chairmen and ranking minority members of major congressional committees, including Foreign Relations and Defense.

Humphrey proposed also a program of arms reduction and a regional police force to reduce tensions in Latin America and he suggested greater emphasis in U. S. policy on economic development of neighboring countries of the south.

The Organization of American States, Humphrey said, should be used more "as an economic and policy planning board of cooperation between the United States and our friends in the western hemisphere."

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Next 3 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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